

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 NIC-01 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 ARA-16 OMB-01

DRC-01 /168 W

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R 190750Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4666

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY ROME

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, JA, UR, XG, XH

SUBJ: KOMEITO VISIT TO USSR AND WESTERN EUROPE

SUMMARY: KOMEITO (SMALL OPPOSITION PARTY BACKED BY SOKA GAKKAI, A POWERFUL NEO-BUDDHIST SECT) WILL SEND MISSION ON MONTH-LONG TOUR OF SOVIET UNION AND WESTERN EUROPE BEGINNING LATE SEPTEMBER. PARTY SPOKESMAN TOLD EMBASSY THAT SOVIETS ARE PRESSING FOR JOINT COMMUNIQUE AT END OF SOVIET TOUR ALONG LINES OF OCT 73 TANAKA-BREZHNEV COMMUNIQUE, BUT KOMEITO WILL REFUSE SINCE THIS WOULD CONTINUE TO OBFUSCATE NORTHERN TERRITORIES ISSUE. END SUMMARY.

1. KOMEITO ANNOUNCED SEPT 14 THAT NINE-MEMBER GOODWILL

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MISSION HEADED BY CHAIRMAN TAKEIRI WILL MAKE MONTH-LONG

SWING THROUGH SOVIET UNION AND SEVEN WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES BEGINNING SEPT 25. GROUP WILL VISIT SOVIET UNION SEPT 26 TO OCT 2 AT SOVIET GOVT INVITATION. TAKEIRI GROUP WILL THEN VISIT WEST GERMANY AND GREAT BRITAIN, BOTH ALSO AT GOVT INVITATION, AND FRANCE, SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND, DENMARK AND ITALY. WESTERN EUROPEAN SCHEDULE NOT YET FIRM, BUT GROUP WILL VISIT GREAT BRITAIN SOMETIME AFTER OCT 10 GENERAL ELECTION.

2. AKIRA KUROYANAGI, INTERNATIONAL BUREAU CHIEF WHO WILL ACCOMPANY TAKEIRI THROUGHOUT TRIP, TOLD EMBOFF SEPT 19 THAT PARTY HAS NO OBJECTIVES IN MIND FOR DELEGATION OTHER THAN AREA FAMILIARIZATION AND EXCHANGING VIEWS WITH FOREIGN LEADERS. SOVIET VISIT WILL BE SECOND OFFICIAL VISIT FOR KOMEITO, FIRST BEING SEC GEN YANO'S TRIP IN 1971. AS FAR AS PARTY IS CONCERNED, ACCORDING TO KUROYANAGI, COMING TRIP IS NOT RELATED IN ANY WAY TO SOKA GAKKAI CHAIRMAN IKEDA'S CURRENT TRIP TO USSR WHICH INCLUDED 90-MINUTE MEETING WITH KOSYGIN SEPT 17. THE SOVIETS, HOWEVER, ARE UP TO SOMETHING, KUROYANAGI SAID, SINCE THEY ARE INSISTING THAT TAKEIRI AGREE TO SIGN JOINT COMMUNIQUE AT END OF HIS SOVIET VISIT ALONG LINES OF OCT 73 TANAKA-BREZHNEV COMMUNIQUE. SPECIFICALLY, SOVIETS WANT TO OMIT DIRECT MENTION OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES ISSUE AND TO TREAT IT AS ONE OF "YET UNRESOLVED PROBLEMS REMAINING SINCE WORLD WAR II" WHICH ARE TO BE RESOLVED IN PEACE TREATY NEGOTIATIONS. KUROYANAGI SAID TAKEIRI WILL RESIST SUCH OBFUSCATORY TREATMENT OF ISSUE AND WILL WANT "BETTER LANGUAGE" IN PROPOSED COMMUNIQUE, SINCE THIS WILL PROBABLY NOT BE POSSIBLE, KUROYANAGI BELIEVES THERE WILL BE NO JOINT COMMUNIQUE.

3. RE TYUMEN ISSUE KUROYANAGI SAID THAT TAKEIRI WILL INSIST THAT THIS IS NON-PARTISAN ISSUE WHICH ONLY GOJ IS COMPETENT TO HANDLE IN JAPAN, IN ORDER FINESSE POSSIBLE SOVIET MOVE TO USE KOMEITO TO BREAK DOWN GOJ RESOLVE NOT TO INVOLVE ITSELF IN PROJECT WITHOUT US PARTICIPATION.

4. RE WESTERN EUROPEAN TOUR, KUROYANAGI SAID KOMEITO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GROUP WILL TAKE CLOSE LOOK AT ROLE OF OPPOSITION PARTIES AND THE PROBLEMS THEY ENCOUNTER IN FORMING AND MAINTAINING COALITION GOVTS. HE SAID KOMEITO NEEDS POINTERS ON THESE SUBJECTIONS BECAUSE OF RAPIDITY WITH WHICH POLITICAL SITUATION HERE IS EVOLVING TOWARD WESTERN EUROPEAN MODEL. EMBOFF SUGGESTED THAT KOMEITO ALSO LOOK INTO OPPOSITION PARTY ATTITUDES ON SECURITY MATTERS, ESPECIALLY IN FRG.

5. KUROYANAGI SAID KOMEITO HAD TURNED DOWN RECENT OFFICIAL  
INVITATIONS FROM EAST GERMANY, YUGOSLAVIA, HUNGARY, AND  
RENEWAL OF EIGHT-YEAR OLD BID FROM CUBA, BUT MAY TAKE  
THESE UP SOMETIME LATER.  
SHOESMITH

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